

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 OES-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

EB-07 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 COME-00 /075 W

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R 011419Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3415

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY EOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11872

FROM AMBASSADOR STERNER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,ENRG, TC

SUBJ: UAE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT QUARREL OVER DUBAI  
OIL DEAL

1. I CALLED ON UAE AMBASSADOR TO LONDON MAHDI TAJER  
JULY 31 AT THE THIRD RESIDENCE IN LONDON HE HAS RECEIVED  
ME, THIS ONE A GEORGIAN BRICK MANSION IN HYDE PARK COR-  
NER. MAHDI APOLOGIZED FOR "MODESTY" OF HIS SURROUNDINGS  
OWING TO FACT THAT SHAIKH ZAYID WAS CURRENTLY OCCUPYING  
HIS MAIN RESIDENCE. ZAYID HAS JUST COME OUT OF HOSPITAL  
AFTER MINOR OPERATION FOR TOOTH INFECTION, AND WAS EX-  
PECTED TO LEAVE FOR MOROCCO TODAY TO CONTINUE HIS  
VACATION.

2. TAJER TOLD ME THERE HAD BEEN STORMY SCENE,AT WHICH  
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HE HAD BEEN PRESENT, BETWEEN SHAIKHS ZAYID AND RASHID

OVER SECRECY SURROUNDING LATTER'S DEAL WITH DUBAI PETRO-  
LEUM COMPANY. ZAYID TOLD RASHID HE COULD NOT COMPREHEND  
RASHID NOT EVEN INFORMING OTAIBA ABOUT DEAL, WHO WAS,  
AFTER ALL, UAE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM. RASHID DISINGENUOUS  
LY REPLIED THAT IT HAD NOT OCCURRED TO HIM THAT OTAIBA  
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SOMETHING GOING ON IN DUBAI INAS-  
MUCH AS HE, RASHID, HAD NEVER BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF  
ANY OF DEALS ABU EHAZI HAD CONCLUDED WITH COMPANIES,  
NOR CONSULTED ABOUT POSITIONS OTAIBA ADOPTED AT OPEI  
MEETINGS. TAAER SAIE THAT IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE MEETING  
WITH SHAIKH ZAYIE TAJER TOLD HIM THAT HE THOUGHT RASHID  
WAS MOSTLY IN THE RIGHT ABOUT THIS, AND ZAYID WOULD HAVE  
TO MAKE HIS GOVERNMENT IN ABU DHABI FUNCTION MORE  
EFFICIENTLY BEFORE HE COULD EXPECT SHAIKH RASHID TO HAVE  
CONFIDENCE IN IT. ACCORDING TO TAJER'S OWN ACCOUNT HE  
TOLD ZAYID THAT NO ONE KNEW WHO MADE OIL POLICY IN ABU  
DHABI. WAS IT OTAIBA? SHAIKH TAHNOON? HAMRA-KROUHA?

3. INCIDENT HAS ALSO CREATED HARD FEELINGS DOWN THE LINE  
OTAIBA ANGRILY TOLD OIL COMPANY REPS HE IS NEGOTIATING  
WITH HERE THAT IF THIS HAD HAPPENED IN US IT WOULD HAVE  
PROVOKED CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION. I ALSO HEAR THAT  
RELATIONS BETWEEN TAJER AND FONMIN SUWAIDI, WHO GENERALLY  
SEE EYE-TO-EYE, HAVE BEEN ST  
AINED BECAUSE TAJER GAVE  
HIM NOT SO MUCH AS A HINT THAT  
OIL DEAL WAS IN  
THE OFFING.

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## Message Attributes

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